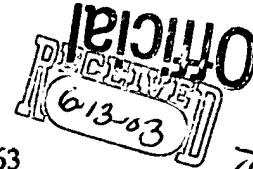


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Attorney Docket No. 71493-629

In re application of TREVOR D. CORKUM, ET AL)
Serial No.:09/471,093) Art Unit: 2663
Filed :December 23, 1999) Examiner: Scott A. Waite
For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR)
ESTABLISHING DEDICATED LOCAL AREA)
NETWORK (LAN) CONNECTIONS IN AN OPTICAL)
TRANSMISSION NETWORK)

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 14, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 26 and ending on page 6, line 2 with the following re-written paragraph:

According to a broad aspect, the invention provides a method of transmitting LAN data in an optical transmission network wherein information is transmitted in frames, each frame containing a first plurality of bytes for transmitting payload data and a second plurality of bytes for transmitting overhead data, the method comprising allocating in each frame one or more bytes of the second plurality of bytes for LAN data transmissions, for each LAN data transmission, transmitting frames with LAN data in the one or more allocated bytes until the LAN data transmission is complete.